

MSC Consortium Update

Fall 2020

Administrative

MSC New Contract Procurement Process

The Montana Shared Catalog's contract with SirsiDynix expires June 30, 2022. State Library staff will begin work on the Request for Information (RFI) process within the next couple of months. The RFI/RFP process requires the participation of a scoring committee which should be partially composed of individuals from MSC member libraries.

The time frame for this ad hoc committee's work will be approximately 12-18 months. The time commitment will depend upon the number of proposals submitted. The work entails reviewing the RFI/RFP drafts, reviewing RFI/RFP responses (approximately 2 hours per proposal to read and score), committee meetings (approximately 3 per RFI/RFP event, each of which may take upwards of 1 hour), and product demos (approximately 2 hours per demo plus half an hour to score and make notes).

For a frame of reference, the MontanaLibrary2Go RFI/RFP committee was required to review 1 round of RFI responses and 2 rounds of RFP responses, which added up to approximately 45-50 hours of committee work over the course of 12 months. We would strive to avoid having to undergo a second RFP round for the MSC contract but cannot make any guarantees.

Please [open a ticket](#) if you are potentially interested in participating in this important process.

Public Access & Discovery

BLUEcloud Mobile

The MSC system administrators finished configuration of the consortium app. Libraries that purchased templates received Content Management Training in early September and downloaded a beta version of the app. The final step before app deployment is to secure an Apple Developer account which is currently underway. Training on the end-user experience of the app will take place at the fall membership meeting and Fall Workshops (see Training Update below).

Enterprise Digital Government Publications

The Montana Shared Catalog will merge Montana State Library and State Government Information Center holdings so that they can be searched using the MSL library policy. During this process, the MSC system administrators invite other libraries to include an Enterprise search limit for digital government publications collected and available online through the Montana State Library. Please [open a ticket](#) if you would like to include the materials in your Enterprise search options.

System Maintenance

WorkFlows Upgrade

An upgrade to 3.7 is scheduled for October 14 for the development server. After a testing period, the MSC system administrators will schedule the upgrade for the production server. Instructions will be sent out when the date is finalized.

The upgrade to 3.7 will include enhanced password management, and a revised password procedure will be sent to the membership post upgrade. Please note that you can request a password change at any time by opening an MSC help desk ticket. Per usual, libraries should change passwords whenever staff turnover occurs.

Closed Days Survey

In the coming weeks, please check your email for the annual closed days survey. We use your responses to enter dates into WorkFlows so that materials do not become overdue on closed days.

Technical Services

OCLC Cross Reference

Each month, the MSC uploads additions and deletions to WorldShare Collection Management Services to synchronize consortium holdings as represented in Symphony with OCLC. After the files are processed, OCLC delivers a cross reference list that matches the local control number (catkey) to an OCLC control number (OCN). To facilitate adding the OCN to the appropriate records on a monthly basis and after reclamation, the consortium acquired a custom report from SirsiDynix consulting that will automate record updates. Adding the OCN from the cross reference report will help with future matching (i.e. new holdings, deletions, reclamation) in OCLC and will help keep our catalog as synchronized with OCLC as possible.

Training Update

New Libraries

Rosebud Public Schools (ROSEK12) and the Great Falls Public Library (GFPL) are now live in the MSC! Toole County Library and Big Sandy Public Schools (BIGSANK12) will soon receive technical services training so staff can start retro-cataloging.

Cataloging Equipment/Devices

MSC system administrators have created generic records to help streamline the cataloging of equipment/devices. So far the list includes laptops, Chromebooks, tablets, and hot spots. Thank you to our school systems, especially MCPS, for the inspiration! See [Cataloging – Equipment/Devices](#) (formerly Cataloging – Equipment (Schools)) for more information.

Certain devices require more detailed instructions, which are linked to from the chart at the top of the article.

System Configuration

Circulation Rules

Each item type in your library has a circulation rule attached to it that dictates item checkout length, billing structure, amount of renewals, and item limits. Libraries in the MSC have requested more flexibility than what our circulation rules offered, which led MSC administrators to completely revamp the Approved Circulation Rules.

This revamp allows for 1, 14, 28, and 42 day checkouts with fining structures for non-fining, 10¢/day, 25¢/day, and \$1/day items and can be combined with any these:

- A. 0 Renewals, No Limit
- B. 0 Renewals, Limit of 2
- C. 2 Renewals, No Limit
- D. 2 Renewals, Limit of 5

There are also several special rules that fall outside of these categories. MSC administrators are currently updating the KB article for Approved Circulation Rules and it will be available shortly.

Branch Grouping

New functionality in WorkFlows allows for grouping branches together in call number/item trees.

If your library is part of a branch, you will see all your libraries grouped together when searching. Branch grouping does not currently allow for “groups within groups” so sharing groups will not show up together.

If your library is *not* part of a branch, you will still see a slight change in how libraries are shown in your item search.